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Clemson University

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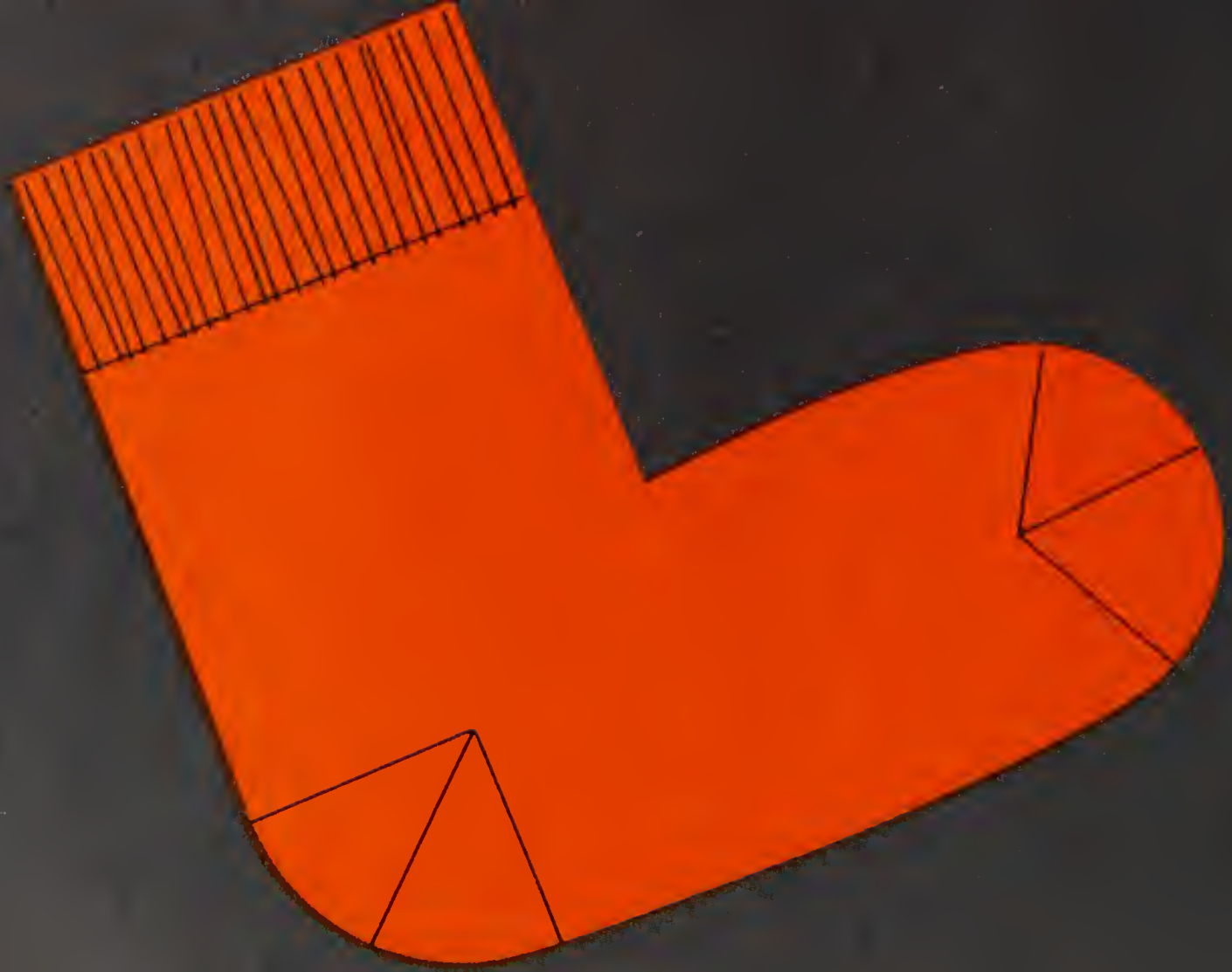
's talk about

Wealth

FEDERAL PUBLICATION

let's talk about wealth

where do you keep yours?



do you know where to find some of the world's greatest treasures?

WALL STREET

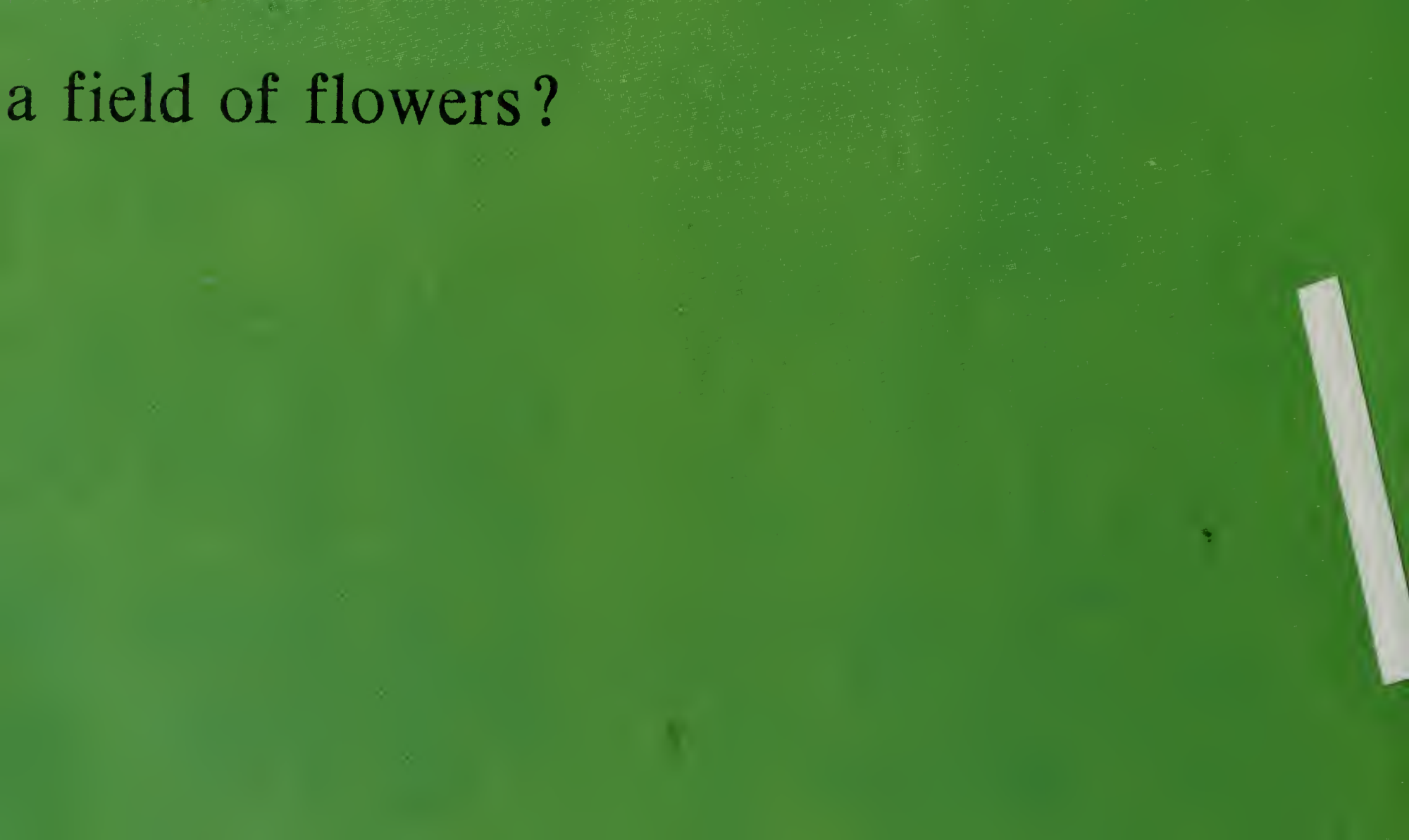
guess again.

here is a clue:

how much do you value . . .

the song of a bird?

a field of flowers?



a rich, red sunset?

a glimpse of nature's wonders?

a sense of America's history?

a walk beside the sea?

these are things that money can't buy:

but they belong to you—to all of us.
they are only a sample of the
riches and splendors that are ours to enjoy
in nearly 300 national park areas.

the National Park Service
protects and manages three kinds
of public lands in this
nation's world-famous system of parks.

natural areas

The National Parks, and the scenic and scientific Monuments, preserve for future generations of Americans—and for the world—those areas of transcendent beauty and wonder which we inherited. These are cultural treasures, as well as places for the refreshment of mind and spirit. They are the remaining "islands" in which life processes go on undisturbed, offering us the opportunity to understand a wilderness environment. In them one can observe the slow processes that have carved and shaped our earth and clothed it with plant and animal life. Without that comprehension, man cannot realize his own social life—so different, and yet with such vital correspondences!

2

historical areas

In the historical areas of the National Park System are preserved the epic pages of the story of the national march. The prehistoric dwellings of a people who were on the continent long before Columbus came form a kind of preface to this volume. We tread the trails of the Spanish conquerors, the French fur trappers, the Oregon migrants. We come in actual touch with the sources of our greatness and prosperity. Here great deeds were done; heroic thoughts were transmitted; here great problems were grappled with and decisions made. Sometimes these areas are of themselves, or are surrounded by, great beauty: but the basic theme is the will of man to throw off mental and physical shackles and to achieve.

3

recreational areas

Wholesome, restorative, and happy physical recreation is the primary purpose of the National Seashores, the Parkways, and the National Recreation Areas. Here one escapes from the drag of humdrum dailiness and indulges in the play-spirit, using the ocean beach, the impounded lake, the easy progress through ribbons of roadside natural beauty—all to gain mental and spiritual renewal. But of course all such areas have other values beyond those of simple recreation. There may be steep-walled canyons to explore by boat; there is always the strange life community that inhabits the seashore duneland, and if you wish to mingle a little adventure into the natural environment along with holiday romping, the option is yours.

As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has basic responsibilities for water, fish, wildlife, mineral, land, park, and recreational resources. Indian and Territorial affairs are other major concerns of America's Department of Natural Resources. The Department works to assure the wisest choice in managing all our resources so each will make its full contribution to a better United States—now and in the future.

U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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